

Community Stewardship and Field based Environmental Education

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The EcoRowing program is an exploratory adventure in the aquatic environment of Esquimalt Lagoon, near Victoria, British Columbia. Over the last four years, twenty one hundred middle school students (Grades 6-7) met the physical challenge of rowing an open water scull, scientifically studied marine life, and learned how First Nations lived in this area by studying the life in the wetlands. In collaboration with the Esquimalt Lagoon Stewardship Initiative (ELSI), students collect water quality information that may be useful for the caring and monitoring of this federally designated Migratory Bird Sanctuary. A slide presentation about EcoRowing and ELSI will demonstrate how two lively community initiatives can mutually benefit each other.